

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0023] bridging pages 9 and 10 as follows:

After that, the upper die 13 is moved down whereby the intermediate form 19 with its hollow held by the mandrel 15 has its axial portions 18a and 18b squeezed through the respective small-diameter rims of the axial portion forming bores 13b and 14b, and ~~their~~ the respective squeezed volumes ~~there~~ of the axial portions 18a and 18b are forced out axially. Also, the stepped portion of large diameter 18c is axially compressed by the stepped forming recesses of large diameter 13a and 14a of the upper and lower dies 13 and 14 to expand and deform into them and the stepped portion is thereby formed into a shape complementary to a shape defined by ~~their~~ the inner contours of the recesses of large diameter 13a and 14a. As a result, there is formed a hollow stepped shaft 1 as shown in Fig. 5 that is finished having an inner diameter sized to the mandrel ~~5~~ 15 and an outer contour shaped to correspond to an inner contour of the second die set 12 as shown in Fig. 4.